

1-Mr. Colter

August 16, 1973

Mr. James B. Rhoads
Archivist of the United States
National Archives
Washington, D. C. 20408

Dear Mr. Rhoads:

Based on a recent review of certain FBI material included among the documents of the Warren Commission which have been withheld from public access under established guidelines, it has been determined the following documents can now be made available for research purposes:

- 1- Commission Document No. 557 consisting of a letterhead memorandum dated March 4, 1964, at Dallas along with copies of twenty-seven photographs taken during the autopsy of Lee Harvey Oswald. It is suggested that access to these photographs be limited to qualified medical researchers who have a legitimate interest in reviewing this material.
- 2- Commission Document No. 880 which is a letter dated April 30, 1964, to the Honorable J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel of the Warren Commission, which enclosed copies of three letterhead memoranda setting out the results of FBI efforts to locate any safe-deposit boxes used by Oswald. These enclosures were previously made public.
- 3- Commission Document No. 1212 which consists of a report dated June 23, 1964, prepared by our New York Office which set out information concerning certain traveler's cheques issued to an individual who had been in contact with Oswald in Mexico.

Sincerely yours,

J. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley
Director

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NOTE: These three items relating to our investigation of Oswald are included among certain Warren Commission documents which were reviewed by a representative of the Intelligence Division in connection with a request for public access by a private researcher. Dallas LHM of 3/4/64 (Item No. 1) reported information concerning examination of Oswald both in hospital and at autopsy. There is no reason this cannot be released although we are suggesting that Archives limit access to photographs of Oswald's body. Bulet to Rankin 4/30/64 (Item No. 2) includes information concerning a \$25,000 withdrawal made from a Texas bank by Oswald's widow, which turned up during our inquiries; but release of this information would not jeopardize any current sources or investigation. New York report of 6/23/64 (Item No. 3) sets out identifying information regarding travelers cheques issued by the American Express Company to one Arnold Kessler, who was acquainted with Oswald in Mexico. There is no reason this data cannot be released at this time.

Request from private researcher for access to the various Warren Commission documents is being handled separately.